

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A microphone including an arrangement facilitating the reception and identification of at least one speaker utilizing the microphone, said arrangement comprising:

a device for producing an audio signal from said microphone, said audio signal device producing one or more output audio streams in dependence upon the identity of the speaker using the microphone, said microphone comprising at least one switch actuatable by a speaker for producing said one or more output audio streams;

at least one sensor for determining the speaker using said microphone;

an encoder for encoding the audio signal with a speaker with a speaker indicator number as determined by said at least one sensor;

and a decoder for extracting the audio signal and decoding the speaker indicator number so as to enable the deriving of a speaker recognition model determination of the speaker.

2. (Original) A microphone as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said at least one sensor, said encoder and audio signal producing device are installed in said microphone.

3. (Original) A microphone as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said at least one sensor determines which of at least two speakers is using the microphone.

Claims 4 and 5 (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) A microphone as claimed in Claim 5 1, wherein said switch comprises a manually-operated button on said microphone.
7. (Currently Amended) A microphone as claimed in Claim 5 1, wherein said switch comprises a position switch for detecting an angular orientation of said microphone.
8. (Original) A microphone as claimed in Claim 7, wherein said position switch comprises a mercury balance switch.
9. (Currently Amended) A microphone as claimed in Claim [4] 1, wherein a plurality of microphone pick-up elements are located in said microphone to enable energy and/or volume levels of said output audio streams to facilitate recognition of the speaker identity.
10. (Original) A microphone as claimed in Claim 1, wherein sound or electrical sensors arranged in a handle of said microphone detect when a holder of the microphone is speaking in contrast with a non-holder of the microphone.
11. (Original) A microphone as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said encoder encodes said audio signals through selectively a high- or low-frequency bias.

12. (Original) A microphone as claimed in Claim 11, wherein said decoder recognizes and eliminates said bias through selectively a DC high- pass or low-pass filter.

13. (Currently Amended) A microphone as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said encoder encodes said output audio signal streams in a plurality of channels by selectively utilizing multiple output wires, adding a DC-bias, modulation on different carrier frequencies, or stereo transmission.[.]

14. (Original) A microphone as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said encoder encodes said audio signals by a pulsed signal whereby upon said microphone detecting another speaker, a beep is transmitted for detection by the decoder.

15. (Original) A microphone as claimed in Claim 13, wherein an auxiliary clip-on microphone device is located on at least one speaker, and the output of the audio signals from the microphone is encoded with one said channel upon the energy of the clip-on microphone device exceeding a predetermined audio threshold.

16. (Original) A microphone as claimed in Claim 1, wherein a speech recognizer detects the encoding of the audio signals in said encoder and utilizes a different speech recognitions model based on the encoding to identify a speaker.

17. (Original) A microphone as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said microphone includes a camera for ascertaining visually any lip motion so as to detect the identify of the speaker.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of utilizing a microphone including an arrangement facilitating the reception and identification of at least one speaker utilizing the microphone, said method comprising:

providing a device for producing an audio signal from said microphone, said audio signal device producing one or more output audio streams in dependence upon the identity of the speaker using the microphone, said microphone comprising at least one switch actuatable by a speaker for producing said one or more output audio streams;

providing at least one sensor for determining the speaker using said microphone;

providing an encoder for encoding the audio signal with a speaker with a speaker indicator number as determined by said at least one sensor;

and providing a decoder for extracting the audio signal and decoding the speaker indicator number so as to enable the deriving of a speaker recognition model determination of the speaker.

19. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 18, wherein said at least one sensor, ~~said encoder~~ said encoder and audio signal producing device are installed in said microphone.

20. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 18, wherein said at least one sensor determines which of at least two speakers is using the microphone.

Claims 21 and 22 (Cancelled).

23. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim ~~22~~ 18, wherein said switch comprises a manually-operated button on said microphone.[.]

24. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim ~~22~~ 18, wherein said switch comprises a position switch for detecting an angular orientation of said microphone.

25. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 24, wherein said position switch comprises a mercury balance switch.

26. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim ~~24~~ 18, wherein a plurality of microphone pick-up elements are located in said microphone to enable energy and/or volume levels of said output audio streams to facilitate recognition of the speaker identity.

27. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 18, wherein sound or electrical sensors arranged in a handle of said microphone detect when a holder of the microphone is speaking in contrast with a non-holder of the microphone.

28. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 18, wherein said encoder encodes said audio signals through selectively a high- or low-frequency bias.

29. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 28, wherein said decoder recognizes and eliminates said bias through selectively a DC high- pass or low-pass filter.

30. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 18, wherein said encoder encodes said output audio signal streams in a plurality of channels by selectively utilizing multiple output wires, adding a DC-bias, modulation on different carrier frequencies, or stereo transmission.[.]

31. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 18, wherein said encoder encodes said audio signals by a pulsed signal whereby upon said microphone detecting another speaker, a beep is transmitted for detection by the decoder.

32. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 30, wherein an auxiliary clip-on microphone device is located on at least one speaker, and the output of the audio signals from the microphone is encoded with one said channel upon the energy of the clip-on microphone device exceeding a predetermined audio threshold.

33. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 18, wherein a speech recognizer detects the encoding of the audio signals in said encoder and utilizes a different speech recognition model based on the encoding to identify a speaker.

34. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 18, wherein said microphone includes a camera for ascertaining visually any lip motion so as to detect the identify of the speaker.